

The Hong Kong Daily Press.

No. 5202

號二千五百第

日七月初六成甲治同

HONGKONG, MONDAY, 20TH JULY, 1874.

一月

號十二月七英

港香

PRICE 2d PER MONTH

Arrivals.

Banks.

JULY 18 TEHRAHAN, Brit. str., 2,838, Alfred H. Johnson, Bombay 29th June, Galle 4th July, Penang 1st Aug., and Singapore 12th. General P. & O. S. N. Co.
JULY 18 YAMOTSEI, Brit. str., 789, A. Corrier, Canton July 17th, General STEPHENS & Co.
JULY 18 H. L. E. M. S. corvette VLADIMIR, 1,095, Novorossi, Batavia June 17th, and Singapore July 1st.
JULY 18 VESTA, German bark, 302, Dirks, Whampoa July 17th, Ballast—MACHERS & Co.
JULY 18 MORNING STAR, Shansi bark, 570, Edelmann, Bangkok June 27th, General —CHINESE.
JULY 18 SCAL OF CHINA, British ship, 794, Binger, Swanson March 24th, Patent FUEL—MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.
JULY 18 CHINKEE, Brit. str., 798, James Hogg, Shanghai 15th July, General SIBBISON & Co.
JULY 19 NINGRO, British steamer, 761, Raynor, Canton July 17th, General SIBBISON & Co.
JULY 19 PATIM, British steamer, 1,572, Scale, Liverpool 31st May, Port Said 15th June, Suez 16th, Peiping July, and Singapore 12th, General BUTTERFIELD & SWINS.
JULY 19 HALLOGO, British steamer, 277, J. C. Abbott, Tamsui 13th July, Amoy 18th, and Takao 17th, General D. LARSSON & Co.
JULY 19 DRONNING LOUISA, Danish brig, 283, Hvidt, Newchwang June 18th, Brans—En SCHILLER & Co.
JULY 19 CORSAIR, German steamer, 130, Homann, Mukden 28th June, Becham, Captain C. STANLEY, July 1st.
JULY 19 SHUN-CAKE, Chinese gun-boat, 200, Shing, Canton 1st July, Broad Street.
JULY 19 TIGRE, Danish bark, 256, Heukendorff, Cobh 2nd July, Ballast—JOM BUD & Co.
JULY 19 FERNAND, German bark, 416, Lommer, Newchwang 12th June, Brans—W. R. PUSTAF & Co.
JULY 19 PALMA, German bark, 299, Binger, Newchwang 1st June, Brans—BODAU & Co.

Departures.

JULY 18 CATHAY, str., for Singapore, Bon-hay, &c.
JULY 18 GLAMIS CASTLE, str., for Shanghai.
JULY 18 PLENTHORPE, for Whampoa.
JULY 18 AUGUSTINA, for San Francisco.
JULY 18 SEA GULL, str., for Singapore, &c.
JULY 18 MADIAS, str., for Yokohama.
JULY 18 YANGTZE, str., for Ningpo and Shanghai.
JULY 18 CASSANDRA, str., for Foochow.
JULY 18 BENJAMIN GUMMINGS, for Whaling cruise.
JULY 18 CHINXLONG, str., for Canton.
JULY 18 H.I.C.M. gun-boat WING-FO, for Foochow.
JULY 18 ORION, str., for Stratton, &c.

Clearances.

AT THE HARBOUR MASTER'S OFFICE,
15TH JULY.
See Catalogue, for Singapore, &c.
Fleming, for Whampoa, &c.
Yangtze, str., for Ningpo and Shanghai.
Elizabeth Dugall, for Portland.
Cassandra, str., for Foochow.
Benjamin Gummings, for Whaling cruise.

Passengers.

ARRIVED.
For Telor, str., from Bombay, &c.—
From Hongkong.
From Penang.—45 Native. From Peiping.—6 Chinese. From Singapore.—Mr. J. Foster, and 11 Chinese.
To Shanghai.
From Southampton.—Mr. F. Macleod. From Singapore.—Mr. and Mrs. Barlow, 2 infants and European female servant and China boy, and Mr. Hanson.
For Yokohama.
From Southampton.—Mr. G. Bates.—From Venice.—Mr. and Mrs. Canzi and Mr. P. Savio.
For Macau.—Miss Thorn and Thornton, and 3 Chinese deck.
For Fuzhou, str., from Liverpool, &c.—
For Ningpo and Shanghai.—20 Chinese.
For Macau.—Misses.—2 Europeans and 10 Chinese.
For Ningpo.—2 Europeans and 10 Chinese.
For Foochow.—2 Europeans and 10 Chinese.
For Macau.—Mr. Webster and 2 Europeans.
DEPARTED.
For Ningpo, str., for Ningpo, &c.—
85 Chinese.
For Macau.—Mr. G. Bates.—From
Venice.—Mr. and Mrs. Canzi and Mr. P. Savio.
Report.

The British brig Droming Louis reports left Newchwang on 12th June, and will light South-Westerly winds the whole passage.

Vessels that have arrived in Europe from Ports in China, Japan and Manila.

(For last Month's Advertisements, see page 10.)

Date of Arrival.

White Star, str., Hongkong, 1st July.

James Edward, steamer, 1st July.

Asturias (s.), Hongkong, 1st July.

Coraline, str., Japan, 7th July.

Adriatic, str., Zebta, 7th July.

Daphne, str., Manila, 9th July.

Stornoway, str., Kobe, 10th July.

Lemon Castle, Hongkong, 11th July.

Vessels Expected at Hongkong.

(Concluded Date.)

Yacht, "Dawn," str., Jan. 15.

Albatross, str., London, April 1.

Teaser, str., London, April 1.

Comet, str., Cardiff, April 1.

Orion, str., London, April 1.

Mermaid, str., Liverpool, April 1.

Sir Harry Parkes, London, May 10.

Fraser, str., Cardiff, May 12.

Ferdinand, str., Cardiff, May 12.

Cornwall, str., Hull, May 13.

Hopewell, str., London, June 4.

Glenlyon (s.), London, June 10.

(For continuation of Shipping Reports see this page.)

AUCTION Sales Today.

J. M. ARMSTRONG,
At Auction,
A place of Good will & Goods,

Offices.

COMPTEUR D'ÉS COMPTÉ DE PARIS,
INCORPORATED by National Decrees of 7th and 8th March, 1853, and by Imperial Decree of 25th July, 1854, and Slet December, 1865.
RECOGNISED BY THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION OF 30TH APRIL, 1862.

FRANCE, E. Sterling.
PAID-UP CAPITAL.....\$300,000 \$300,000
RESERVE FUND.....20,000,000 \$400,000

HEAD OFFICE—14, Rue Bergère, Paris, 100ft. General Agency, 144, Leadenhall Street, EC 2.

AGENTS—At Nancy, Lyons, Marseilles, Boulogne, Brussels, Alexandria, Bombay, Calcutta, Hongkong, Shantou, Saven, Saint Denis (Ile de la Réunion) and Yokohama.

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THE CHRONICLE & DIRECTORY FOR 1874.

NOW READY.

THIS WORK, now in the TWELFTH year of its existence, is ready for delivery.

It has been compiled and printed at the Office, as usual, from the best and most authentic sources, and no pains have been spared to make the work complete in all respects.

In addition to the usual varied and voluminous information, the value of the "CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY FOR 1874," has been further augmented by a CHROMO-LITHOGRAPH

OF A PLAN OF THE CITY OF CANTON.

THE FOREIGN SETTLEMENTS OF SHANGHAI.

A Chromo-Lithograph Plate of the NEW CODE OF SIGNALS IN USE AT THE PEAK.

THE VARIOUS HOUSE FLAG (Designed expressly for this Work)

MAPS OF HONGKONG, JAPAN,

and of THE COAST OF CHINA.

ALSO, THE NEW CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE HONGKONG;

besides other local information and statistics corrected to date of publication, tending to make this work in every way suitable for Public, Mercantile, and General Offices.

The Directory is published in Two Parts, Complete at \$5; or with the Lists of Residents, Port Directories, Maps, &c., at \$3.

Orders for Copies may be sent to the Daily Press Office, or to the following Agents:

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Mon. Francisco, Mr. C. P. FERGUSON, 21, Mercer Street, &c.

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The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, JULY 20TH, 1874.

This point to which our London correspondent called attention in his last letter, with reference to the steps being taken at home with regard to the adulteration of tea, is undoubtedly suggested by a common sense view of the question. He proposes that the broker and wholesale dealer, as well as the retail dealer, should be made answerable to fine in any case which is brought forward, and this proposition will generally be admitted to be founded upon a fair and equitable view of the subject. To fix an unfortunate retail dealer because a small quantity of adulterated tea is found in his shop, and to have the wholesale dealer to go to Scotland seems, to say the least of it, a clear injustice. The *fact*, *of* course, of the adulteration is undoubtedly in the large majority of instances out of the hands of the retail dealer. The tea for the most part adulterated in China, though from the report of the Adulteration Committee which we publish to-day, it appears that certain practices of refining tea leaves, &c., have come into vogue at home. In the main, however, the wholesale dealers are the persons really implicated, and it will be hopeless to put it down by merely attacking the grocer. Such a plan clearly begins at the wrong end of the matter, and is besides not to cause substantial injustice in many instances. If the adulteration in the majority of instances took place in the grocer's shop, it would be quite justifiable to apply to them the full force of the Act, but this course is obviously unfair when it is notorious that in the majority of instances they buy the tea, wholesale in the ordinary course of business, already adulterated to a considerable extent. It is quite true that skilled inspectors can detect adulteration in tea, but small grocers cannot as a rule afford to employ experienced Chinese constables at large salaries, and must necessarily rely to a very great extent upon the good faith of the wholesale dealer with whom they do business. The real question, before subjecting a retail dealer to a heavy fine, would therefore seem to be whether he has taken due and reasonable precautions against obtaining and afterwards retailing adulterated tea. If he has done so, that is to say, if he has bought from a respectable wholesale dealer, and has relied upon him to sell him a sound article, he ought to be let off with a nominal punishment, and the whole force of the law brought to bear upon the large dealer, whose business is of such a character that he can afford the searching inspection which would be quite beyond the power of the retail dealer. The latter might possibly protect himself by obtaining a guarantee with the goods purchased, but the difficulty would arise to show that the tea which he retailed in small quantities was actually identical with that which he bought in chests or half-chests from the wholesale dealer. The plan which our London correspondent suggested would therefore appear to be the most feasible. It should be competent for a retail dealer to put the evidence how he came by the goods objected to, and if it could be shown that he bought them *bona fide* from a wholesale dealer upon whose responsibility and judgment he had good reason to rely, the offence on his part might at the least to be treated as one of a very mitigated character, while the wholesale dealer, and even if necessary the importer, should be called upon to answer for selling the adulterated article in large quantities.

The difficulty will probably at last become adjusted, as many of the same kind have already, by various being singled out as special articles, and sold so warranted, as being fairly understood that all tea not so specified as adulterated to some extent. This ruling in the case which has recently drawn attention to this subject, undoubtedly goes further than this, but unfortunately it is found that putting into force Adulteration Acts is so unprofitable and vexatious that the Authorities are not disposed to pass such measures too far. The point, however, which is of most importance to us in China, is the extent to which the Chinese will fall into discredit if the adulteration *is* continued, and the interest which all have—now that India is becoming so important a competitor—in doing all in their power to put an end to the evil. That much could be done by care being taken by Chinese, and by the tons being bought less hastily there can be little doubt, and it might not be amiss if the attention of the Chinese tea dealers, especially those at Canton, who seem to be the greatest offenders, were directed to the movement taking place at home, and if necessary the aid of the native Authorities brought into requisition to put down the practice complained of. A notification issued some years ago by the Authorities at Foochow against the practice of packing old season's tea with new season's tea produced good effects, and at all events no harm could be done by endeavouring to check adulteration on this side by the same means.

The British steamer *Nispo*, which arrived from Canton yesterday, went over to look at Kowloon at noon.

The following are reported by wire as having passed through the Canal—*Canton Castle, Gordon Castle, Glenallock, Asa, and Albert*.

A telegram dated 15th instant, from the arrival of the following vessels—*American Arrow, Arctic, Bremen, Fassa, der Gans, St. Andrew's Castle, and Alaska*.

Wire advises from London, dated 17th instant, that the arrival of the *Glenallock* and *Albert* has been confirmed by the *Arrow*, *Bremen*, *Fassa*, *der Gans*, *St. Andrew's Castle*, and *Alaska*.

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THE ADULTERATION.

The Select Committee of the House of Commons appointed to enquire into the working of the Adulteration Act, held its first meeting last week. The Committee is at present directing its attention specially to the adulteration of tea, and has given the following evidence upon the subject:

Mr. Whitworth Jackson, a wholesale tea dealer, of Spital-square, was examined as to the general practice of adulterating tea, and the various modes adopted for giving it a flavoring or preservative quality. He said he had seen no definite adulteration, he said, was in the employment of a material called scented soap, which gave a gain of 10d. per pound. A man employed eight hours per day would, in adulterating tea-by-hand, yield a compensation to his employees of £18 or over. The tea was passing the color of tea by passing a heated vapour through it. One of the largest and most capital houses that he had seen in the tea trade was engaged in this practice, to economise their two or three hundred thousand pounds of tea.

This we think, is not so difficult, as might be at first imagined, and are inclined to believe that the explanation will be found to be one of a very simple description. The plain fact is that in the China Trade, as in all others, the people who gain in the long run are the ones who can afford to pay the highest price. It is evident on the face of it, however, that among the large monted firms, who are not so numerous as compared with all who now-day's enter upon the trade, we find one set of men advancing the money upon which another set trade, and, as a natural consequence, the former gaining in the long run while the latter are either unsuccessful or at best make but little out of their business.

Certain qualities of tea and another are now a highly-recognized element in the China trade both as to Export and Import. In the latter, the house to whom the specimens are consigned at home, in that which finds the money or credit necessary to carry on the transaction. If the shipments do not prove remunerative they are willing to extend facilities to the item as the tea is being packed, and to give commissions and advances good for their money, and if matters are not extraordinarily bad, there is almost a certainty that in the course of a certain number of years a good bill will be made, and an opportunity offered for squaring up accounts, when the process is renewed, with probably the same results. The chances in this are obviously always in favor of the capitalist, and in the case of the Chinese, at the expense of the over-ambitious Ching-shen, who have been induced to accept the fatal sacrifice.

In respect to imports very much the same kind of process goes on *mutatis mutandis*. The manufacturers are here the capitalists and are as usual with those who go to put out their money to advantage, quite willing to grant facilities. Thus it is drawn against the shipowners that the Chinese tea is not sold readily, the manufacturers are willing to buy, but at this time they are changing interest on their money and are quite content for their goods which already show a large profit.

Even if goods thus shipped be upon joint account of the manufacturer and the importers, profits will be shared by the latter, and it is necessary to compare with him, and to pay him a commission, without any compensation for the risk of loss, and the manufacturer's goods direct and are willing to meet the market from time to time, it is needless to point out that the chances of profit to independent importers are extremely small.

Thus on both sides the China Trade is mainly in the hands of home capitalists, and a large portion of it is conducted upon the credit which they grant to the foreigner conducted in such a manner as not astonishing that the results should attend this system as is the case in other directions.

The old saying that "money begets money" is as true in the present day as formerly, and one of the chief causes of the disappointment so frequently experienced in China is that people expect to make a great deal of money in the China Trade. It has always been a high capital, and as long as it is continued to be conducted in the main by men trading with their own capital, and able to meet the fluctuations of the market with bold front, it was of a lucrative character, and formed no ground for complaint.

But the trade has become despised and extended to a more and more commercial basis, and has lost its original character, and become unprofitable principally to those dependent upon the facilities thus afforded. No local or other circumstances have tended to make the China Trade less profitable than in the early days; but the one above-named is probably the most important.

The profiteers of the trade has not altogether passed away, as noticed in the opening of these remarks, but by the time year after year passes by, the local or other circumstances in which there is less demand for tea, and the market becomes smaller, the China Trade will be less profitable.

A Chinese port-packet, whose name was raised to \$25,000, in Great Cesar's name, in a non-state of affairs—the Gospel going up and port going down. What's to become of

the name of the man who denied the capacity of others or any one, by a rough and ready method, to detect the adulteration of exhausted leaves, for his hand had tested tea-dealers with samples purposely adulterated with tea-leaves and, they had deemed them adulterated, and reported the same to the tea from which the samples, before adulteration, were taken. He quite agreed that there had been improper prosecutions of grocers that was to say, in insufficient grounds—in some localities.

In reply Sir Charles Dilke, the witness, said that with respect to the purchase of exhaust leaves from large establishments, this had come from the dealers who had themselves adulterated in order to know the truth. That the tea, however, when the leaves were purchased, for the purpose of being re-infused. His opinion as to adulteration being known in Sheffield arose from the fact that he read a paper on its cultivation before the British Association, when the name of this appeared in the newspaper, though no name was mentioned, the particular dealers to be in itself adulterated tea, was put in during the writing, and this being noted out, the other was found to be largely adulterated with sulphate of iron, tin, sand, and other substances. Sir H. Peck, the witness, said that he was selling adulterated tea, but, with the exception that persons went round to hotels and other large establishments to purchase the used leaves for 12d. and 14d. a pound for the purpose, it was believed, of robbing them, he did not know that the practices existed now to any extent. In answer to questions put by Mr. Welsby, the witness, and he said that the adulteration was actually carried on in the town of London. His opinion was that on one occasion a sample of tea, which had been adulterated with tea, had been found to be adulterated. The committee did not prosecute as that occasion, (it being the first), but, notice being given that the next case would be prosecuted, more samples were purchased; and then five out of six were found to be adulterated. This showed that the sellers knew they were selling adulterated articles. He purchased a sample of a highly-decorated tea, and found it to be adulterated, and he said to be in itself adulterated tea, was put in during the writing, and this being noted out, the other was found to be largely adulterated with sulphate of iron, tin, sand, and other substances. Sir H. Peck, the witness, said that he considered it very accidental quantity found in tea should be considered as adulteration, and that, when reported the news, adding, and such like, said, that he had found Chinese tea in tea, but he did not consider or rule that to be an adulteration. In answer to the name of the man who denied the capacity of others or any one, by a rough and ready method, to detect the adulteration of exhausted leaves, for his hand had tested tea-dealers with samples purposely adulterated with tea-leaves and, they had deemed them adulterated, and reported the same to the tea from which the samples, before adulteration, were taken. He quite agreed that there had been improper prosecutions of grocers that was to say, in insufficient grounds—in some localities.

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